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## UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 91, No. 7

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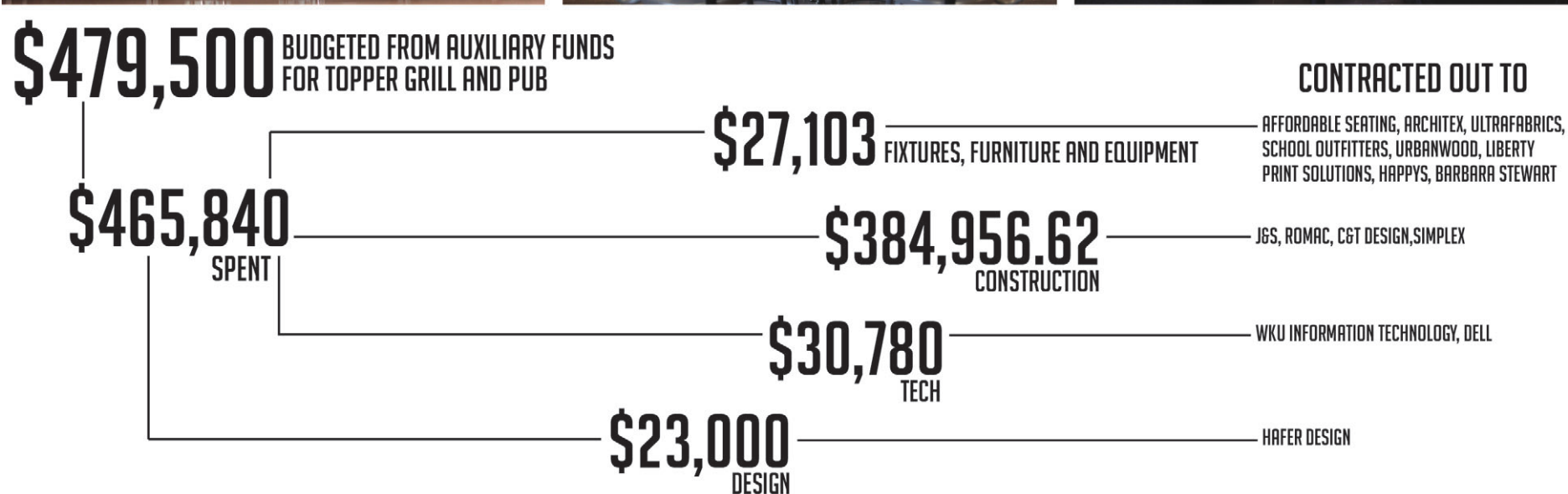
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# HOW THE PUB SLOWED TO A CRAWL



## A look at the cost of Topper Grill and Pub

BY JACOB DICK  
HERALD.NEWS@WKU.EDU

Lots of questions surround the recent news of Aramark's decision to pull alcohol licensing for the Topper Grill and Pub, and only one thing is clear: establishing a restaurant as an investment isn't so simple.

With the duty of ordering supplies, managing staff and serving customers, running a successful restaurant isn't an easy task. Include the liabilities and nuanced policies that come with serving alcohol, and the task becomes even more difficult.

It seems the Topper Grill and Pub, with a estimated cost of \$465,000, is no exception.

According to the project budget used by the department of planning, design and construction, Business and Auxiliary Services made \$479,500 available to complete the pub project. All the money was allocated from auxiliary revenue funds.

In an email, Chief Facilities Officer Bryan Russell gave a simplified explanation of what auxiliary revenue is.

"Auxiliary Revenue/Funds are generated by the sale of goods such as food, books, clothing, etc," Russell said in an email. "WKU auxiliary is a self-supporting financial enterprise."

Gary Meszaros, assistant vice president of Business and Auxiliary, and Jed Peterson, project manager of

SEE TOPPER GRILL AND PUB PAGE A2

## WKU students celebrate Chinese New Year

BY MADIHAH ABRI  
HERALD.NEWS@WKU.EDU

Over the weekend, WKU's Chinese residents opened their arms and doors to the students and community members of Bowling Green to help ring in the Chinese New Year.

To kick off the celebration, guests at the event joined together in a dumpling contest won by Cincinnati senior Cortney Ballard.

"I'm really happy about it. They had a similar event two years ago, and I made like half of the dumplings," Ballard said.

Ballard, now having experienced both New Year's celebrations for Americans and New Year's celebrations for Chinese, noticed how different the holiday is between the cultures.

"America is more of a celebration and ringing in the new year, but for the Chinese culture, it seems to be more about being with friends and family and finding luck for the new year," Ballard said.

Not all attendants at the party were involved in WKU's Chinese Flagship Program.

Saudi sophomore Zainab Zamzami heard of the event through the English as a Second Language International program and decided to come with some friends and her kids. Zamzami knew no one within the Chinese program but found the hosts to be very welcoming.

"Even though we didn't understand each other, it was a lot of fun. I really enjoyed the food and everything. We came in, and they helped us find seats immediately. They hosted us very well and were very welcoming," Zamzami said.

For the Chinese culture, New Year's is much more than just one night of dumpling fun. Chinese society collectively bases the New Year's celebration around family.

Assistant professor of Chinese Ke Peng, who is originally from the Hunan province in China, said the Chinese New Year means different things



Haiwang Yuan, professor and coordinator of web and emerging technologies, teaches students how to make the dough for dumplings on Friday, Feb. 12, at Baptist Campus Ministry on WKU's campus. "When people cook together during the holidays, it reinforces the family; the same is true with Chinese. They make and eat dumplings to bring in good fortune," Yuan said. ERICA LAFSER/HERALD

*"[We're] definitely building a holistic learning experience and building the type of leader skill set we need in Kentucky."*

Assistant professor of Chinese Ke Peng

to different people.

"Everyone has their own interpretation. For me, it is a time to be together with family, paying respect to your ancestors, and a time to really think about your identity," Peng said.

Celebrating Chinese New Year in America allows for an integration of cultures. Peng said the biggest difference is having to celebrate with new friends, students learning Chinese, or faculty and staff. It's a time to expand connections beyond just family and friends.

Peng said the dumpling party was also a learning experience.

"[We're] definitely building a holistic learning experience and building the type of leader skill set we need in Kentucky. To be a global citizen, we need to integrate multiple cultures and languages. Generally students love learning and enjoying what they see and make," Peng said.

Elizabethtown freshman Roy Williams is one of many who came simply to experience a little bit of the Chinese culture.

"We have different nations, people of different backgrounds [fostering] the community, different cultures. It's really interesting," Williams said.

## Committee appointed for search to replace Ransdell

BY EMMA COLLINS  
HERALD.NEWS@WKU.EDU

The committee tasked with the search for WKU's 10th president has been set.

On Friday, Feb. 12, the Board of Regents met to discuss the formation of a Presidential Search Committee and to establish the members and conditions of the search.

The seven-member committee is tasked with finding candidates the board can vote on to decide President Gary Ransdell's replacement when he retires on June 30, 2017. Philip Bale, a member of the board, was unanimously appointed chairman of the search committee and will serve as the committee's official spokesman.

The search committee appointees were Bale, Barbara Burch, Cynthia Harris, Julie Hinson, James G. Meyer, Tamela Smith and Jay Todd Richey.

According to Frederick Higdon, the chairman of the Board of Regents, the number of committee members will be fluid with additions allowed throughout the process as needed.

Higdon's proposed list of committee members was unanimously accepted by the nine regents present at the meeting. Of the present members only one, John Ridley, expressed reservations about the list.

"We certainly want [the members']

SEE SEARCH COMMITTEE PAGE A2



## TOPPER GRILL AND PUB

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

renovations, could not be reached for comment at time of publication.

The renovation of the Garrett Conference Center began in earnest when the planning, design and construction department awarded the project bid in October 2015.

Construction bids for the pub were solicited to four companies: J&S Gen-

project could probably have been considered a success.

After being mostly completed this February, the only obstacle the pub faced in serving alcohol was obtaining a limited restaurant license, the cost of which is a mere \$780, but it is this step in the process that separates the restaurants from the pubs.

Aramark was advised by its lawyers to pull the license request for the restaurant because of a low possibility of ap-

*"The pub could be licensed in the future, but even if conditions were met, it would take between 30 and 50 days for a decision to be made by the ABC board."*

eral Contracting, Phelps General Contracting, Sunbelt Construction and Scott, Murphy and Daniel.

According to a quotation table provided by the department, only J&S General Contracting submitted a bid for the project.

J&S General Contracting, as the only company of the four to submit a bid, proposed a \$329,000 base bid with a \$15,000 alternative to remove base walls and paint and to install equipment.

Upon the project's completion, close to \$385,000 was projected to be paid to J&S and three other contracting companies.

A newly renovated conference center couldn't become a pub without some design, so nearly \$23,000 was paid to Hafer Design for their services.

Hafer is an architectural design company with offices in Evansville and Owensboro. Their vision of "The Tap Room" at WKU can still be found in the work section of their website.

Nearly \$27,000 was used to furnish and equip the pub with all of the style and necessities it would need to make customers comfortable.

With IT equipment costs thrown in, the final bill for the pub was projected to be \$465,840.

The outcome of all this planning and work became a furnished and gleaming pub on the Hill. With a \$36,659 contingency left over in the budget, the

proval by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Steve Hoyng told the Herald earlier this month.

It is assumed that the ABC board wasn't pleased with the pub's kitchen being located downstairs, but there has been no official comment from the board.

There are 84 different license types available for purchase in Kentucky, but not all licenses are available statewide. The license that the Topper Grill and Pub needed was specific to restaurants and limited the pub's sales to 50 percent food and 50 percent alcohol.

According to the ABC board's website, licenses can be denied for reasons of zoning, occupancy limits, food sales or prior history with licensing requests. There are also restrictions on the numbers of certain licenses in a city.

The only thing that is certain for the moment is that no matter how expensive or detailed a project is, making a pub requires navigation of all of the states varying — and sometimes contradicting — alcohol laws.

Hoyng could not be reached for comment at time of publication.

The Topper Grill and Pub is set to open its doors for dining only in the next two weeks.

The pub could be licensed in the future, but even if conditions were met, it would take between 30 and 50 days for a decision to be made by the ABC board.

## SEARCH COMMITTEE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

input, but I do think that there are three members in this that specifically have a vested interest in benefits from the university," Ridley said, referring to members who stand to receive certain benefits based on who is chosen as president.

Despite his concerns, Ridley still voted to adopt the proposed member list.

The committee's first step will be to select a search firm to help facilitate the presidential search.

Several search firms, which are professional recruiting companies hired by large businesses to find new employees for key positions, will be proposed to the board no later than March 2.

Both Higdon and Bale believe the selection of the right search firm is ex-

tween three and five finalists. It will then present the list to the Board of Regents.

The board has requested that finalists be selected by Dec. 31 so that a president can be selected before March 1, 2017.

According to Bale, the search for a new president, which Ransdell will not participate in, is of the utmost importance to maintain WKU's status as a leader in postsecondary education.

"Other than very personal matters of family, the decision of selecting a new president for this great university may well be the most important decision of our individual lives," Bale said during the meeting.

This process is expected to last for about 17 months, and members will be under strict confidentiality requirements. All members of the committee

*"Other than very personal matters of family, the decision of selecting a new president for this great university may well be the most important decision of our individual lives."*

### Search committee chairman Philip Bale

tremely important.

"What I have read, you know, your chances of success in finding the right person are enhanced immeasurably by having the right search firm," Bale said.

The firm will be selected by the board and, in conjunction with the search committee, begin the process of finding candidates for the position of president.

Higdon believes WKU is at an opportune moment to receive applications from extremely competitive individuals.

"Gary Ransdell has set the bar high for his successor," Higdon said. "The board and the WKU family can take comfort that, as we move forward in the presidential search process over the next 17 months, the university is positioned and immeasurably attractive to illicit the very best of the best in candidates."

In addition to finding a search firm, the search committee and board must also create a presidential position profile that includes desirable qualities considered an asset to the university. After selecting several candidates, the committee will narrow the list to be-

as well as the board will be required to sign a Code of Conduct and Confidentiality Agreement promising to refrain from discussing any of the selection proceedings with members not involved in the search. Violation of the agreement will result in removal from the search process.

Jay Todd Richey, the student regent, suggested that there be "as much student input as democratically possible."

He proposed a series of open forums where students would be allowed to ask candidates questions and express their opinions regarding each candidate.

According to Bale, future actions during the search process will include a discussion of the budget and a president's compensation package. However, the main focus right now is to begin the search process and find candidates for a search firm.

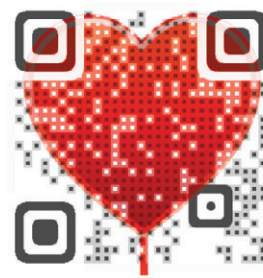
"May we now commence this journey with the noblest of intention, integrity and collegiality," Bale said during the meeting. "The Western Kentucky University family expects and deserves nothing less."

*Miss it?*  
*Valentine's Day is only 24 hours.*



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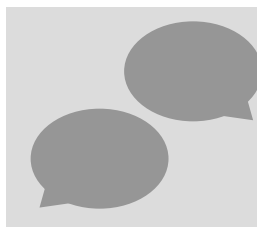








# OPINION



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## EDITORIAL



ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER KING

# CAN'T KEEP US QUIET

## Student media needs protection

**THE ISSUE:** First amendment protection for student media has recently come to the forefront of legislation in Missouri, New Jersey, Nebraska and Washington after the unanimous passing of the John Wall New Voices Act in North Dakota last spring..

**OUR STANCE:** Although Kentucky doesn't have a New Voice legislation, WKU hasn't had to worry about impediments on its first amendment rights because of how open President Gary Ransdell has been with student publications, but, unfortunately, with his upcoming retirement this could change.

About 20 states have campaigns to pass New Voices legislation, which is guaranteed free speech and free press protection for high school and college journalists, according to the Student Press Law Center.

After North Dakota's New Voices bill was unanimously passed last

spring, legislation was introduced in other states, like Missouri, New Jersey, Nebraska and Washington. The Student Press Law Center reported earlier this month that in Washington and Missouri the New Voices bills were passed out of their state committee, pushing it a step further in legislation.

In 2009, President Ransdell signed a statement written by the Society for Professional Journalists which stresses student media's need for first amendment protection just as much as any other form of media. For this, we are lucky. According to the SPJ blog, Ransdell was the first university president to sign the statement. However, we may not remain as lucky.

The Board of Regents have just appointed the presidential search committee to find Ransdell's replacement. In his 19 year presiden-

cy Ransdell has shown a commitment to student media that other university presidents have not. For that, it will be hard to find a replacement.

Hopefully, the search committee will add this to its list of requirements for Ransdell's replacement since it is such an important issue. Student media works as a public forum for the student body, a way for members of the community to have their voices heard. However, this isn't just a problem that can be fixed with an agreeable new university president for WKU.

Every other school in Kentucky needs guaranteed protection of their First Amendment rights. Discounting student media as lesser or unimportant silences the voices of the state's young people.

### THE LOOKING GLASS

## Scalia's death just made your vote even more important

BY MCKENNA MEANS  
HERALD.OPINION@WKU.EDU

Associate Justice Antonin Scalia passed away Saturday, Feb. 13, at the age of 79. A devout Catholic and father of nine, he was known most prominently for his conservative views.

Scalia was put into office during the Reagan administration in 1986 and was the first Italian immigrant to become a justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. He voted vehemently against abortion, gay marriage and civil rights. He supported the death penalty.

What's a bit shocking is that Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has openly admitted to being very close with Scalia despite their obvious political differences. Ginsburg claimed he was an admirable and likable guy.

Some might disagree. Scalia's actions speak for themselves. Last December, he spoke against allowing financial aid specifically to African-Americans to increase their admission rate into the University of Texas because they "do not do well, as opposed to having them go to a less-advanced school, a less — a slower-track school where they do well," according to Esquire.

Scalia's death leaves a seat open on the Supreme Court. Although President Obama has almost a year left to nominate a new justice, Republican candidates such as Ted Cruz and Donald Trump have advocated for this process to be stalled. A new Republican president would be more likely to appoint another conservative justice so that Republicans fill more seats than Democrats in the Supreme Court.

With a 5 percent drop in voter turnout from the 2010 midterm elections to this year's — and with a Supreme Court appointment on the line — your vote for our next president is crucial. Rights for women and minorities hang in the balance.

### SKIPPING BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S

## Getting hitched without a hitch: How to plan your nuptials



SCOUT HARDIN

**SKIPPING BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S:** Your weekly guide to having fun with fashion on campus.

BY SCOUT HARDIN  
HERALD.OPINION@WKU.EDU

Valentine's Day weekend brought us shimmering snow and, to some, sparkly rings! The holiday season is prime time for engagements; maybe you are one of the lucky few who found your forever love.

You've called your mom, but now what? Peel your eyes away from that ring and fol-

low these simple steps. It's time to plan a wedding!

**1.** Make a timeline. Is your wedding in three months or a year? It may not seem like a big deal, but having a schedule makes a world of a difference. Often you won't be able to confirm a precise wedding date until your venue is confirmed, so you'll need to decide on a location. Writing a timeline for when things need to be done also helps a new bride feel less overwhelmed!

**2.** Figure out your wedding style. Are you boho chic or sleek and posh? Pin down a look. Don't start trying on dresses, sampling cake — no matter how tempting — or booking bands before you and your partner fig-

ure out your aesthetic. To gather inspiration, scan bridal magazines, look at different locations and check out real wedding photos online. Your wedding should be an extension of your and your groom's personalities.

**3.** Budget! I know this isn't pleasant, but finances are incredibly important when you plan a wedding. Talk to your family and your fiancé's family to see how much they are willing to contribute. The amount you are willing to spend will influence every decision you make when organizing the celebration.

**4.** Shop dresses! This is my favorite part. Knowing your wedding aesthetic will be a huge help as you pick your gown for the big day. Keep in mind price as well as the timeline. Is

your wedding in a month? In that case, you might want to buy a dress off the rack, which means you take it home the same day you purchase it. If you have more time, you will have many more options. Receiving a dress you ordered can take up to four months. Choose a gown that fits your venue and price range as well as your personality.

**5.** Pick your wedding party, caterers, florist, photographers and guest list. Do this in advance; many vendors are booked months in advance for events.

Wedding planning can be stressful, but relax! Follow these simple steps and your walk down the aisle will be smooth sailing.



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1. Letters shouldn't exceed 250 words. Commentaries should be about 500 words and include a picture.
2. Originality counts. Please don't submit plagiarized work.
3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.
4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.
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6. Submissions must be received by 7 p.m. on Sunday and Wednesday.

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed in this newspaper DO NOT reflect those of Western Kentucky University's employees or of its administration.

\*Denotes editorial board members. The Herald publishes on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year. The first copy is free, and additional copies are 50 cents each, available in the Student Publications Center on Normal Street.

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# THE FUN PAGE

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#### City of Bowling Green SUMMER AQUATICS

Applications are currently being accepted for the  
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- Pool Lifeguards
- Swim Instructors
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- Pool Manager
- Assistant Pool Manager
- Laborer

Interested applicants can apply online at  
**www.bgky.org/hr/jobs** or at the Human Resources  
Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling  
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Interested applicants can apply online  
**www.bgky.org/hr/jobs** or at the computers in the Hu-  
man Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College  
Street, Bowling Green.

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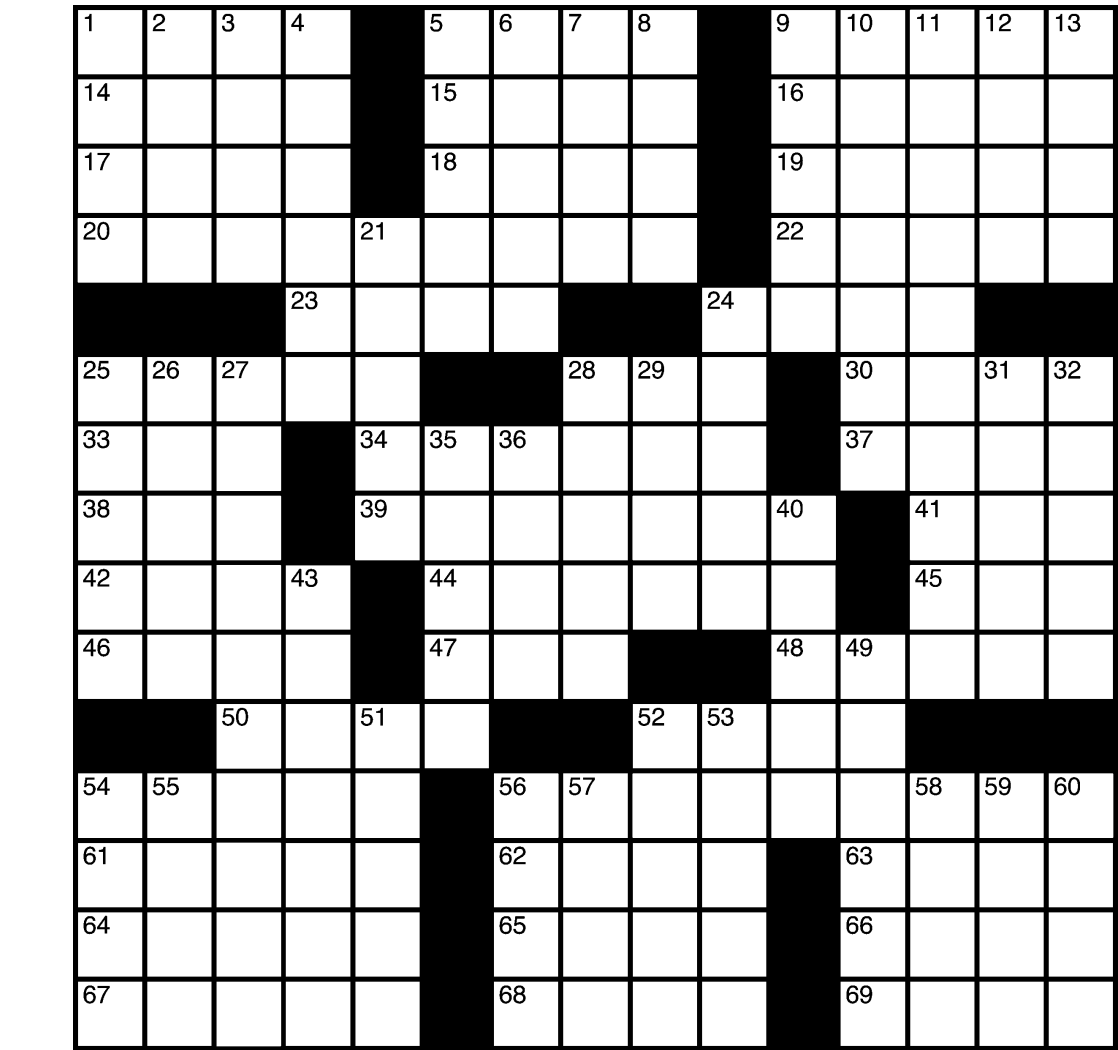
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Operates assorted equipment for the assigned  
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driver's license and acceptable driving record. High  
school diploma or GED required, with three to six  
months of experience working with various light  
equipment. Age 18+. \$9.80/hour.

Interested applicants should obtain an employment  
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in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green or  
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#### Across

1 Potato bag  
5 Rod in a grill  
9 Macaroni shape  
14 Vintage soda  
15 Chisholm Trail  
city  
16 Red, in roulette  
17 Mine extracts  
18 Club used for  
chipping  
19 Capital of  
Ghana  
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in the aisles  
38 Sermon topic  
39 \*Light, friendly  
punch  
41 Sitter's handful  
42 What some  
missiles seek  
44 Stevenson title  
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45 "I warned  
you!"

46 Gothic fiction  
author Rice  
47 WWII  
espionage gp.  
48 Bugs and Jags  
50 "Fire" bugs  
52 Bourgogne and  
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54 Longstocking  
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56 Spots for  
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... and, literally,  
what the first  
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61 NBA great  
Shaquille  
62 Footnote "p"  
63 Sitter's handful  
64 Modern mil.  
treaty violation  
65 Egg cell  
66 Humdinger  
67 Knuckleheads  
68 Short- or long-  
sleeved tops  
69 Marked, as a  
ballot

#### Down

1 Stereotypical  
"Dahling!"  
speaker  
2 Flight-related  
prefix  
3 General Mills  
brand

4 Affectionate  
greetings  
5 Marble cake  
pattern  
6 Capital on the  
Seine  
7 Pic to click  
8 Grab from the  
grill, as a hot dog  
9 Poetry Muse  
10 Tracks down  
11 \*Wishful  
lifetime agenda  
12 Storybook  
brute  
13 Withdraw  
gradually  
21 "He loves me"  
piece  
24 Sounding like  
one has a cold  
25 Old Turkish  
title  
26 Otherworldly  
27 \*Slapstick  
slipping cause  
28 Sneaks a  
look  
29 Obligation  
31 Typical  
Hitchcock  
role  
32 Publicizes  
aggressively  
35 Martial  
arts schools  
36 Currier's  
colleague  
40 Backup

strategy  
43 When the big  
hand is on two  
49 In working  
order  
51 Leans slightly  
52 Beating around  
the bush  
53 Agenda bullets  
54 Common koi  
habitat  
55 Look \_\_:  
investigate  
56 Washday woe  
57 Nesting site,  
perhaps  
58 Essence  
59 Leafy veggie  
baked for  
chips  
60 Gym specimen

### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

H	I	T	M	E				H	E	A	P	S	O	N
U	P	H	O	L	D		W	O	R	M	H	O	L	E
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#### Work with Special Needs

Community Education seeks applicants to work with  
special needs students during after-school programs at  
elementary schools. These positions are part-time for 3  
hours per day. Must be available to work 2:30-5:30 p.m.  
or 3-6 p.m. each weekday that schools are in session.  
Must be dependable, flexible, nurturing, have reliable  
transportation, a valid driver's license, and good com-  
munication skills. Obtain application at **www.commed**  
**us**. Apply at 1227 Westen Avenue across from CDS #10  
off Ashley Circle.

#### After-School Programs

Community Education seeks applicants for after-school  
programs at elementary schools. These positions are  
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good communication skills. Obtain application at **www**  
**commed.us**. Apply at 1227 Westen Avenue across from  
CDS #10 off Ashley Circle.

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knowledgeable in recreation/sports activities; may  
require CPR & First Aid Certification. 40 hours per  
week; May thru August; weekend work may be re-  
quired. Age 17+ ; \$8.52/hr.

Interested applicants can apply online **www.bgky.org/**  
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Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green.

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#### City of Bowling Green GREENSKEEPER Parks & Recreation Department

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Course; assist in general maintenance of the course.  
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(March — November) 5:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; weekend  
and holiday work required; **SALARY:** \$9.80/hr

Interested applicants can apply online  
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Department in City Hall,  
1001 College Street, Bowling Green.

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# PHOTO

WKUHERALD.COM



Blake Arp of Aragon, Ga., makes an 80-point ride on a bareback horse to set the score to beat on the second night of the Lone Star Rodeo in Bowling Green on Feb. 13. **GABRIEL SCARLETT/HERALD**

# ROPE OR WRESTLE



**ABOVE:** Ten-year-old Blaine Caldwell of Arkansas speaks with fellow youth riders at the Lone Star Rodeo on Saturday inside the WKU Exposition Center. The youth riders rode mini horses in hopes of qualifying for the championship finals in Las Vegas. **MICHAEL NOBLE JR./HERALD**

**RIGHT:** John Alley of Tennessee jumps off his horse to wrestle a steer to the ground during the rodeo. Alley was one of the few to complete the event successfully. **MICHAEL NOBLE JR./HERALD**

**BELOW, LEFT:** Blake Arp of Aragon, Ga., sits and waits for the Saddle Bronco competition during the Lone Star Rodeo at WKU Brown Ag Expo Center in Bowling Green. **SHABAN ATHUMAN/HERALD**

**BELOW, RIGHT:** A bull rider's belongings are left alone at the Lone Star Rodeo. Rider's gloves are coated in resin to help them grip their hold on the bull, but also be able to let go when their ride is finished. **GABRIEL SCARLETT/HERALD**







» **Water for all:** Read about a sorority's campaign to provide clean drinking water to the residents of Flint, Michigan on B3.



Owensboro freshman Chuck Winstead is studying mechanical engineering. He and his dog, Puck, can be regularly spotted around campus or found relaxing in his dorm room playing guitar. Winstead has had two leader dogs since he has been on campus: a black lab named Topper and a yellow lab named Puck, which make his travels around campus much easier. **LEX SELIG/HERALD**

# CANINE COMPANIONS

## Service animals have diverse roles

BY KALEE CHISM  
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

For many, leaving home and coming to college can be a new experience and a huge adjustment. For some, the experience is better handled with animals; from service animals to emotional support animals, WKU offers options to students allowing them to bring the comfort of animals to school.

For Owensboro freshman Chuck Winstead, a mechanical engineering major, his service dog Puck is

more than just an animal; he's a lifeline. Puck helps Winstead get around and navigate the campus.

"Think if I was to grab a person's arm and follow them around He guides me around like bumps and stairs," Winstead said. "Essentially, Puck is my eyes when I'm walking around."

When Winstead made the decision to be a Topper, one of his biggest concerns was making sure his dog had the space and accommodations he needs.

"All I was concerned about was

getting a private room, It was necessary if I was going to be having a service dog," Winstead said. "When I got my room I had a two-person room with an extra bed and extra furniture in here. We had to get something out to give the dog room. It took a lot of pulling teeth, but we finally managed to get the bed out of the way."

Lexington junior Hannah Jenkins, an elementary education major, also went through the process of getting

SEE **CHUCK** PAGE B3

## CAB hosts Black History Trivia night

BY BRITTINY MOORE  
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

Feb. 1 marked the beginning of Black History Month, a month dedicated to the celebration of African-American culture and the black community.

In honor of Black History Month, the multicultural committee of the WKU Campus Activities Board are partnering with the executive board of the Black Leadership and Academic Conference to host a "Black History Trivia" game night.

Students, staff and faculty will all have the opportunity to team up or battle alone and play trivia games while also learning about the history of WKU's black community on Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. in Downing Student Union room 3020.

"I believe these events are important because it educates members of the WKU community on WKU's history as it pertains to the African-American community," Student Activities coordinator and game night organizer Joslynn Brandon said.

While some participants will walk away with prizes, both the CAB and Brandon hope participants will see the greater value in the game.

"With the black history trivia, [students] will gain a lot of knowledge about different things that African-American students here on WKU's campus have done," CAB president and Louisville junior LaRosa Shelton said. "There are some extraordinary things because they've been the first to do a lot."

Brandon also hopes the game night will inspire all students by showing the accomplishments of others.

"I hope students walk away feeling both informed and inspired by what can be accomplished on a college campus as it pertains to student leadership and engagement," Brandon said.

CAB was also slated to show the movie "Higher Learning," a film depicting racial tension on a university campus, on Monday, Feb. 15 but was

SEE **TRIVIA** PAGE B3

## Student shares passion, research for dance

BY AMBRIEHL CRUTCHFIELD  
HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

For Louisville junior Charles Buckner, dance is much more than entertainment; it is a way to tell his story. Buckner is majoring in dance with a minor in performing arts administration.

Buckner said he began dancing at the age of 16 at Youth Performing Arts School in Louisville while attending a magnet school. Though he started his dance career later than most, Buckner has always been inspired by what he saw on television and said a MTV show about students in high school inspired him to dive in head first.

Buckner said that the school he attended opened many doors, especially for someone from an urban community. He was able to receive scholarships allowing him to advance in dance. Buckner said he chose to attend WKU because it was the only school in Kentucky that offered dance and was the most affordable option.

After traveling to Chicago with a black dance company this past summer, Buckner became inspired to use his skills to impact the community around him in a different way.

"Art isn't all about entertainment but also storytelling, so

I wanted to research more," Buckner said.

Not long after, Buckner received an email about the Faculty-Undergraduate Student Engagement, or FUSE, grant program offered by WKU. The FUSE program is designed to foster "active engagement in the areas of research, creative and/or scholarly activities, and/or artistic performances."

"Receiving the FUSE grant is such a blessing. It will enable [me] to research what black dance is and bring it to my community," Buckner said.

The grant will allow him to travel to Dallas for an international black dance conference. Throughout 2016, Buckner will research what black dance is.

The aim of the FUSE grant is to solve problems in the community highlighting the quality of life in the public, which will be shown through his dance showcase in February of 2017. Buckner feels strongly about black dance because it is an outlet to express what black people go through.

However, Buckner is not free from his share of concerns. He expressed concern regarding the proposed budget presented by Gov. Matt Bevin. If passed in its current iteration, many liberal arts majors such as dance, or French Literature as Bevin touched on during his Jan. 26 address, will be permit-

ted to study their desired major but receive no subsidized money from the taxpayer.

"There will be more incentives to electrical engineers than French literature majors. There just will be," Bevin commented during his address, a comment which has garnered much criticism to his proposed model for higher education funding.

Buckner, who sees art as a way to develop creative skills and allow a person to think outside the box, took to heart what Bevin said.

"I feel that the governor is ignorant because the arts are very important," Buckner said. "Because we live in a world where we literally [are] surrounded by art."

Alongside developing one's creative skills, Buckner believes an artistic out-of-the-box way of thinking also goes hand in hand with learning other school subjects. For Buckner, dance is one such subject that also allows expression and enables people to have their own voice.

"Since the beginning of times, dance has been a way to celebrate; dance has been a way to mourn; dance has been a way to tell a story," Buckner said. "Dance is a universal language because the expression of the body never lies."



Louisville junior Charles Buckner started dancing during his sophomore year at the Youth Performing Arts School. Buckner recently won a FUSE grant to attend a conference in Texas this year, after which he will present his findings this time next year as a dance performance at WKU. **JOSH NEWELL/HERALD**





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# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Income Inequality



**Lecture by  
Dr. Scott Winship**

Walter B. Wriston Fellow,  
Manhattan Institute

**February 17th**

3:30 PM Grise Hall Room 235

ECONOMICS  
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COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
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Sponsored by Young America's Foundation, Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation,  
WKU Department of Economics, and the WKU BB&T Center for the Study of Capitalism



# Sorority takes initiative to help residents of Flint, Michigan

BY KJ HALL

HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

The Delta Sigma Theta sorority has taken the initiative to help fellow Americans and fellow sisters affected by the water crisis in Flint, Michigan.

After a decision not to purchase water from Detroit any more to save money, the city of Flint began to experience water problems. The river water they chose to use was corrosive, causing lead from the city's pipes to leak into its water, according to Vox.com.

Reports of smelly, discolored, undrinkable water began coming in. As many as 8,000 children were exposed to toxic water that will probably have a lifelong effect on their brains and nervous systems. Flint residents must drink and prepare their food with bottled water because

even after the city's tap water has been filtered, it can't be guaranteed safe.

With reports of Flint's water problem gaining national attention within the last month, there has been much support for the city's people.

A simple bottle of water has become an absolute necessity, and the WKU chapter of Delta Sigma Theta has answered the call to help.

"When we received information from our national [chapter] president, we decided that as an organization called to serve, we must do something locally to help those in need in Michigan," said Kinya Embry, a Winchester senior and the president of Delta Sigma Theta. "As Delta women, we answered that call and hoped that the other Greek organizations on campus would support our efforts as leaders at WKU."

The sorority reached out to all the presidents of the Interfraternity Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations on campus, explaining the crisis in Flint

for donating cases of water. Chi Omega sorority alone collected 50 cases of water.

"It's amazing to know that even though Michigan isn't necessarily close to Ken-

Embry said the situation in Flint is both sad and scary. Explaining that people often don't realize how vital something as simple as water is, she said it can be taken for granted.

She said despite not living in Flint, people in other areas still need to help those who are being affected by a large-scale problem.

"If Bowling Green was suffering from a water crisis, we too would hope that individuals from across the world would help us in our time of need," she said. "I think it's important that we do the same even though we may not be directly affected."

The water dropoff was slated to be on Feb. 14 but was cancelled because of the snow. It will be rescheduled for late this week, when cases will be counted and made ready to send to Flint.

*"As Delta women, we answered that call and hoped that the other Greek organizations on campus would support our efforts as leaders at WKU."*

**Kinya Embry**

and how it impacted them as an organization. They asked the presidents to share the information with their chapter members and to donate cases of water bottles to send to Flint.

The initiative was well received, and most of the chapters awarded service hours

tucky, we were still able to help them during this crisis," Miranda Holcomb, the Chi Os' president, said. "Not only that, but the fact that the whole Greek community at WKU was able to come together and raise both awareness and cases of water to contribute to relief efforts."

# Saudi student shares experience of serving in ISO program

BY MADISON MARTIN

HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

As many WKU students have likely suspected, the university with an international reach is home to quite a few scholars from across the world — over 1,000 from more than 70 countries, according to the International

national Diplomats program has been supported to create more student involvement. The International Diplomats provide a unique opportunity for new international students to become better acclimated by engaging with other students who have gone through similar experiences.

Ali Alsheef, president of the

best money you are going to spend in your life," he said.

After coming to WKU and becoming part of the original group of International Diplomats, Alsheef has worked with a wide variety of students which has, in turn, made him richer.

"I would say the most amazing thing about being a diplomat is the friends we make every day," Alsheef said.

When international students apply to become a Diplomat, they are signing up to be a part of the admission and integration processes — helping translate for new students, creating events for domestic and international students, working in the IEM office, and simply being available, whether it be for answering questions or providing support for homesickness. Currently there are ten Diplomats, who cover a wide variety of areas and languages.

According to Alsheef, when new students touch down in the United States, an International Diplomat who speaks

their language will meet them with their shuttle in order to welcome them to their new school. International Diplomats help with the International Student Orientation, similar to M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan, which takes place before the start of each semester in order to familiarize new students with the campus, as well as make new friends.

"So now, we're killing the homesick feeling, because they don't feel alone anymore," Alsheef said. "...class hasn't even started yet, and they already have friends, and then you're going to have even more. So that's our job."

Keeping up with their duties to introduce students to the American culture, the International Diplomats hosted a "Sexy Accent" party at the Faculty House on Fri., Feb. 12, an event open for all students to mix and mingle.

Alsheef said that, contrary to perhaps a common belief, international students are eager to meet and become friends with domestic students. Briones agreed that the

purpose of these events was to bring both groups of students together.

"When you have international events, it doesn't mean only international students," he said. "The whole point is that it might come from the international student side of point of view, but they're wanting to get everyone together."

Alsheef said that meeting students from around the world and learning about their culture is mind-opening and even similar to traveling.

"I encourage everybody to have international friends," Briones said. "Promise you, you won't regret that. It'll open your mind."

Because, at the end of the day, Alsheef said that it's these friendships he makes that matter the most.

"The treasure for me in this life is not money, but the friendships I have," he said. "So with this, yeah I've increased my treasure; I have a lot of money."

*"I encourage everybody to have international friends. Promise you, you won't regret that. It'll open your mind."*

**Ali Alsheef**

Student Office's website.

Part of International Enrollment Management (IEM), the International Student Office (ISO) provides student services to scholars from abroad in order to help orient them to the community, Scarlett Briones, a graduate intern for IEM, said.

But the office can't do everything, and so the Inter-

International Diplomats and senior from Qatif, Saudi Arabia, came to the United States in 2012 to study English in Chicago and then become a paramedic in Bowling Green. A world traveler from a young age, Alsheef is proud to say he has been to every continent — save Antarctica — by the time he turned 21.

"I promise you, that's the

## TRIVIA

CONTINUED FROM LIFE

unable to due to the univertisy's closure. Even though the film was released in the '90s, Wilder sophomore and CAB vice president of public relations Megan Hamberg thinks the movie is more relevant today.

"I think it's important to bring issues to people's attention because some people might not be aware," Hamberg said.

Following the film will be a discussion featuring guest speaker Lactetia Dye, assistant professor in the department of counseling and student affairs.

"It's good to bring it to people's attention and have a discussion about it to start generating thoughts about how people can make a difference and change that environment," Hamberg said.

Shelton said CAB is dedicated to exhibiting diversity and making sure every culture on campus is represented.

"I think Black History Month is definitely something that means a lot to African-American students here on campus," Shelton said. "We want to make sure that they are represented too."

CAB hopes everyone will participate in celebrating black culture.

"It gives a specific culture time to show struggles that they've had in the past and how they've overcome them," Hamberg said. "There's been so much that's happened that it's a month to re-

alize all the growth that's happened."

Those interested in "Black History Trivia" can pick up study guides in the Student Activities office in DSU 2059 to prepare for the games and learn about WKU's black history.

"As an African-American, I celebrate and acknowledge the accomplishments of my community year-long," Brandon said. "Black History Month is just a time when the rest of the country does the same."

## CHUCK

CONTINUED FROM LIFE

an animal approved to live in the dorm. Unlike Winstead and Puck, Jenkins and her animal, Dean Martin, or "Dino," is an emotional support animal.

"One of the biggest misconceptions is he is not a therapy dog, he is not a service dog, he is an emotional support dog," Jenkins said. "He doesn't require any training. They are literally just there for emotional support."

Jenkins said one of the biggest differences is Dino is only allowed in her dorm and outside areas and stays

with her and her roommate. According to Jenkins, Dino functions in helping to calm her and be able to continue with her day.

"He helps me get up," Jenkins said. "I have to take care of him in the morning so I have to get up and get my day started because I have him to take care of. He lowers everyone's stress level, not only mine."

Jenkins went through the Student Accessibility Resource Center and Housing and Residence Life to get her dog approved.

Jenkins said there's more than one way to go through and receive approval. Jenkins navigated SARC's

website and filled out an online form to get into their system. The form was to let SARC know who she was and what she was looking to get approved.

From there, Jenkins went to her psychiatrists to get a note that stated she would benefit from an emotional support animal.

Winstead said the biggest issue was making sure he got the private room and space he needed, and the process proved to be tougher than expected.

"Give them a private room, but don't make it where you have to pull teeth to get one," Winstead said.

Jenkins believes they could improve the process by speeding it up. The process took a semester of her being at WKU until it was approved.

"One thing they could do is make the process faster," Jenkins said. "It took an entire semester to get it approved. It just took a long time."

One of WKU's biggest accommodations was just letting the dog come here, according to Jenkins.

"They let him here," Jenkins said. "That's a huge deal. The staff all is really supportive. They don't really do anything because he is my responsibility, but they let him here and I am super thankful for it."

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## FOOTBALL

# Doughty, Higbee receive invitation to NFL combine

BY SAM PORTER

HERALD.SPORTS@WKU.EDU

Former WKU quarterback Brandon Doughty and redshirt senior tight end Tyler Higbee received invitations to the NFL Scouting Combine that will be held in Indianapolis on Feb. 23-29.

NFL scouts use the combine to measure each player's individual skill set including speed, agility and strength. The combine comes two months before the NFL draft and often helps or hurts each prospect in terms of draft stock. Roughly the top 20 quarterbacks and top 20 tight ends are invited each year.

Brandon Doughty led the nation in passing each of the past two seasons at the college level, throwing for 4,830 yards and 49 touchdowns in 2014.

After being granted a sixth year of eligibility, Doughty led once again led the nation by throwing for 5,055 yards and 48 touchdowns in 2015.

The record-setting numbers helped Doughty earn the Conference USA Most Valuable Player, making him the only player in conference history to win the award in consecutive seasons.

The Davie, Florida, native also amassed a 20-7 record as a starter during that span, which included two bowl victories and a Conference USA championship.

However, the record-setting numbers don't correlate with his current draft stock; Doughty is currently projected to be picked in the sixth round.

Earlier in 2015, Doughty traveled to St. Petersburg, Florida, to play in the East-West Shrine game. The game was

aired live on the NFL Network, and scouts from every NFL team traveled to scope out players. Doughty struggled in the game, completing 11 of 17 passes for 87 yards and two interceptions.

Higbee, one of Doughty's favorite targets, was the only other Topper invited to the combine. Since his arrival on campus, the star tight end has gained over 40 pounds to build an NFL frame.

Despite missing three games due to a knee injury in 2015, Higbee still put up impressive stats, catching 38 passes for 563 yards and eight touchdowns as a senior. Before he sustained the knee injury against North Texas, Higbee led the FBS in receptions, receiving yards and touchdowns by a tight end.

The Clearwater, Florida, native stands 6 feet, 5 inches tall and weighs

243 pounds. Higbee received an invitation to the senior bowl but could not participate due to the injury he suffered in the C-USA championship game against Southern Mississippi.

Higbee will be healed in time for the NFL combine. According to WalterFootball.com, Higbee is ranked as the seventh best tight end and is projected to be picked anywhere from the fourth round to the sixth round. Jon Ledyard of USA Today said Higbee could climb as high as the second round with an impressive combine.

Redshirt senior wide receiver Jared Dangerfield is the only other Hilltopper projected to be drafted but did not receive an invite to the NFL combine. The former Hilltoppers will look to impress scouts as they continue their journey towards the NFL.

## Storytelling: Grounded in research, alive in spirit

BY ANDREW HENDERSON

HERALD.FEATURES@WKU.EDU

"Flight of the Hummingbird," a novel by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, is often credited as a resounding call for environmentalists and activists to get to work and implement change.

The story found its origins from a parable of the Quechuan people of South America. In it, a hummingbird desperately tries to save its forest home from burning to the ground while other animals watch confused as to what to do.

In the tale, the Great Forest one day begins to burn down. All of the animals flee the forest as the inferno blazes. As they all watch, wondering how to stop the fire, and question what it is they can do, there is a lone hummingbird that has not left.

The hummingbird flies back and forth between a nearby stream and the fire carrying a droplet of water in its beak as it comes and goes. Each time, it drops the tiny bead of water onto the fire in hopes of quenching it.

As the other animals look on in disbelief, one of them questions the hummingbird and asks what it is doing.

"I'm doing what I can," the hummingbird replies without missing a

beat.

I first heard the story of the hummingbird last summer, and it stuck with me. While I personally don't credit it as my environmental call to action, I can see how others might draw that conclusion, especially given the fuller contexts of the novel.

This story reminds me of why I'm currently a journalist and why I want to tell stories — why I want to discover the stories of others and help them tell their stories to the fullest extent: stories are powerful, meaningful, complex and magnificent.

Storytelling has long been part of human life, albeit in different forms. Even before language and written word, people told stories using signs, sounds and images. A 2014 article published by The Atlantic, "The Psychological Comforts of Storytelling," shows us why people cling so closely to stories.

"Stories can be a way for humans to feel that we have control over the world. They allow people to see patterns where there is chaos, meaning where there is randomness," Cody Delistraty wrote in The Atlantic article.

The benefits of storytelling are also grounded in scientific research and theory.

"An Experimental Study of Apparent Behavior," a 1944 study conducted by Fritz Heider and Marianne Simmel at Smith College, examined the responses of 34 college students after they were shown a short film. In the film, two triangles and a circle moved across the screen while a rectangle remained motionless on one side of the screen.

Of the 34 students, only one said the figures on the screen were significant in themselves; the other 33 students created their own stories involving the shapes. A common interpretation among the students was a story about two men fighting over a girl.

"The first man tells the second to go; the second tells the first, and he shakes his head. Then the two men have a fight, and the girl starts to go into the room to get out of the way and hesitates and finally goes in. She apparently does not want to be with the first man," the report states.

The point of this study has to do with perception and how we as humans often perceive narratives and stories — even in scenarios that weren't deliberately crafted as stories.

The College Heights Herald recently celebrated its 91st birthday on Jan. 29. This was the same day President Gary

Ransdell announced his retirement. If you could wrap up a big news story and deliver it in WKU wrapping paper topped with a Big Red bow, then Ransdell gave us just that.

For 91 years, the Herald has endeavored to tell stories. Your stories: the stories of WKU students, faculty and staff. The stories of community members here in Bowling Green. The stories that affect us in the state and the nation. The stories that show, on some level, that we are all alive together.

This is why I'm writing today to you, the reader. Much like the hummingbird in the story, you too are doing what you can. We at the Herald, myself and my staff included, want to know what that means for you personally.

Over the course of 91 years, the Herald has told stories, and admittedly we haven't always gotten them right. But that doesn't mean we stop trying because we're also doing what we can.

With this new semester of uncertainty upon us, we want to know your powerful, meaningful, complex and magnificent story.

Reach out to us at [herald.features@wku.edu](mailto:herald.features@wku.edu) or to me at [andrew.henderson@wku.edu](mailto:andrew.henderson@wku.edu). Continue to do what you can.



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## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Team effort propels Lady Toppers past Marshall on the road

BY EVAN HEICHELBECH  
HERALD.SPORTS@WKU.EDU

Sophomore guard Tashia Brown did not play in the Lady Toppers' Sunday victory over Marshall due to an injury that kept her in Bowling Green.

However, it didn't keep her team from picking up an impressive 80-76 victory over the Thundering Herd in a tough road environment.

"I'm just really proud of the team in general and people stepping up," Head Coach Michelle Clark-Heard said in a postgame radio interview. "That's what we needed. I talked to everybody about making sure that different people were ready to step up."

Tashia Brown is averaging 18 points per contest and dropped 21 points en route to an 81-52 rout of Marshall earlier in the season. In her last appearance against UTEP on Feb. 6, Brown had 29 points on 11-17 shooting.

"We were missing a player that normally gives us so much," Clark-Heard said of Tashia Brown. "This was a great team win for us to be able to go on the road here and battle and go back and forth and be able to come up with some big stops and big baskets."

Other members of the Lady Toppers basketball team were key in pulling the team together for the win. Sophomore forward Ivy Brown had 26 points and 11 rebounds, racking up her eighth double-double of the season.

Ivy Brown went 9-10 from the floor and 5-5 from 3-point range to hold off a hot-shooting Marshall team.

As a team, WKU finished 52 percent from the floor while Marshall shot 51 percent. The Lady Toppers also cashed in on 70 percent of their 3-point opportunities, going 7-10 from beyond the arc.

Freshman forward Taylor Brown had a solid game as well, connecting on 7-13 shots from the floor to put together a 16-point, five-rebound effort.

"Ivy Brown was huge for us tonight," Clark-Heard said. "Taylor Brown was crucial for us in the first half. [They] just came out and did a lot of great things."

The 80-76 outcome was only the fourth loss of the season for the Herd inside their own building. A road win in Conference USA league play is usually not an easy task to accomplish.

"It was a great crowd," Clark-Heard said. "They were into the game. It was a good atmosphere, and I think it was a good situation for our team to be in so we can figure out down the stretch how to get things done."

Other double-digit scorers for WKU on Sunday included freshman forward Dee Givens with 10 points and junior guard Kendall Noble who had 22 points and seven rebounds.

The Lady Toppers improved to 19-4 overall and 8-3 on the road for the season. Clark-Heard noted that playing through adversity is a vital lesson her team learned on Sunday and that working as a team is a must for moving forward.

"That's huge for us," Clark-Heard said. "We just have to keep growing,



Junior guard Ima Akpan (20) dribbles around UTSA guard Crystal Chidomere (4) during a basketball game Thursday, Feb. 4, at Diddle Arena. KATHRYN ZIESIG/HERALD

and this is just one of those steps for us to get better. This was adversity. We just really handled it, and I'm just proud as a coach that different people stepped up. They talked to each other and figured out what we needed to do to get it done."

Clinging to a 43-38 halftime lead, the Lady Toppers battled back and forth the whole second half but never allowed Marshall to take the lead. Four times the game was tied, but Noble and Ivy Brown scored the final 10 points of the game to close out the victory for the Lady Toppers.

"It's always a big difference when

you've played with somebody the whole season and then they're not out there," Clark-Heard said. "I'm just proud of our group, and hopefully Tashia's getting better back at home, and hopefully she'll be able to return to get some practice and stuff here soon."

WKU will play the second game of its three-game road trip on Thursday, Feb. 18, when the Lady Toppers go to Norfolk, Virginia, to play Old Dominion at 6 p.m.

In the first meeting of the season between Old Dominion and WKU in Bowling Green, the Lady Toppers handled the Lady Monarchs 68-51.

## REECER'S PIECE

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

athleticism is not impressive. CBSsports.com even goes so far as to say that he has a "lanky body type and lacks ideal build." Doughty's 6-foot, 3-inch, 212-pound frame is just slightly below average compared to most NFL quarterback prospects.

Again, this weakness just doesn't have a leg to stand on. Yes, Doughty does not have the athletic capability of Cam Newton or Russell Wilson, but neither does Tom Brady or Peyton Manning.

In fact, look at the majority of start-

ing quarterbacks in the NFL. Whether it's Derek Carr, Carson Palmer or Andy Dalton, Doughty compares nicely to most starters athletically.

The last negative pinned on Doughty is that the offense he played in at WKU was too beneficial for him and allowed him to make too many easy throws.

While a host of quarterbacks who played in a wide-open offense in college have struggled in the NFL, there are a number of players who have made the transition to the pro offense quite nicely.

For example, former Fresno State quarterback Derek Carr played in a spread offense in college, and in his

first two seasons in the NFL, he threw 52 touchdown passes.

Where NFL scouts truly get it wrong is when they only seem to point out Doughty's weaknesses.

If pro scouts were to closely examine Doughty's strengths more, they would see a quarterback with top-level accuracy. They would also see a quarterback who has great command of the pocket and a player who has an NFL-style throwing motion.

The biggest strength Doughty might have is his personality on and off the field. Too many young athletes throw away their pro careers because of their low character: Johnny Manziel, for ex-

ample.

Throughout his time in college, Doughty had zero run-ins with the law and never had any problems with his teammates or his coaches.

At the end of the day, a look at Doughty's pros and cons show a player with the talent and resume of a quarterback who would be picked up by at least the third round.

Whether or not teams see that and take a chance on Doughty is their problem because no matter where Doughty goes, he will most likely prove the second-guessers wrong. After all, that's what he has done his entire career.

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# SPORTS



» **Football:** Brandon Doughty and Tyler Higbee both received invites to the NFL Scouting Combine.  
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## MEN'S BASKETBALL



Junior guard Fredrick Edmond (25) screams after a slam dunk during overtime against Marshall in Diddle Arena Saturday, Feb. 13. **NICK WAGNER/HERALD**

# NOT GOOD ENOUGH

## TOPS FALL TO MARSHALL IN ANOTHER CLOSE DEFEAT

BY **MATTHEW STEWART**  
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The Thundering Herd came in to Diddle Arena Saturday, Feb. 13, on a mission to sweep the Hilltoppers in conference play. Marshall University managed to leave Bowling Green with their mission completed as they defeated WKU by a final score of 96-93.

However, the Toppers were able to put up a good fight and took the Herd to overtime after tying the game up at 80 at the end of regulation.

"I just feel like we miss a lot of golden opportunities and I don't know how many shots we missed at the rim, but there were a number," Head Coach Ray Harper said. "Free throws 63 percent, if you're going to win games like this you have to do those things it's just that simple."

Harper still presses the fact that the team has a lot of new players that need to be able to complete the chemistry on court.

"We got a lot of new guys that have never played together and at some point they got to figure out how to play together. We have made strides but

still it's not good enough," Harper said.

The Toppers have found themselves in close battles late in games on a number of occasions this season. "If you go back to the games that we had one possession – Middle, FIU, UTEP," Harper said. "To win games like that you execute and you win, or you don't execute and you lose."

In the second half the Toppers could have put the Herd away for good, but Marshall stayed strong and the game headed to overtime tied at 80.

Overtime was an offensive showcase for both teams as there were a combined 29 points scored in the five-minute period.

In the final seconds, Marshall went to a play that had worked throughout the entire game, a backdoor cut alley-oop. The play worked once again on the Hilltopper defense.

"It's kind of real frustrating," junior guard Fredrick Edmond said. "You know we were just there we were so close, we could have blocked the alley-oop, or I could have hit the free throw."

Edmond had the ball in his hands for the last legitimate opportunity for the Tops. He got fouled after he drove the lane. He hit the first free throw but

missed his second attempt.

"Sometimes the coach knows when I got a mismatch, he will tell me to drive cause I will either get fouled or it's gonna be a bucket," Edmond said.

The Hilltoppers had four players finish in double figures. Edmond filled the stat sheet with 25 points, seven rebounds and four assists.

Sophomore forward Justin Johnson completed another double-double on the season with 19 points and 11 rebounds.

Redshirt senior guard Aaron Cosby had a rough night shooting, with 4-12 from the floor Cosby assembled 13 points to go along with six rebounds and four assists.

Senior forward Aleksey Rostov had a big-time role in the Hilltopper offense converting on a couple timely pick-and-pop jump shots. The forward from Latvia ended the night with 12 points and four rebounds.

"It just comes down to finishing things at the end," Johnson said. "It starts back Monday. I guarantee when conference (tournament) rolls around, nobody is going to want see us the first round cause we're going to be ready."

## REECER'S PIECE

# Why the NFL is wrong about Brandon Doughty



**JOHN REECER**

In the world of sports, no one particularly enjoys uncertainties.

One uncertainty that is an incredible nuisance to NFL teams is predicting which college quarterbacks will succeed at the pro level.

For the first time in program history, WKU football has a quarterback who will most likely be selected in the NFL draft. This player is of course none other than Brandon Doughty.

During his time at WKU, Doughty statistically became one of the greatest quarterbacks to ever play college football as he currently ranks in the top 20 players all-time in completion percentage, passing touchdowns, passing yards and passer rating.

Doughty is also just the third player in FBS history to throw for 4,000 yards and 40 touchdowns in consecutive seasons as he led the Hilltoppers to a 20-7 record as a starter.

So with numbers like that, why do most NFL scouts have Doughty going in the last few rounds of the draft? And why do some scouts have Doughty not being picked at all?

NFL draft analyst Mel Kiper Jr. ranks the former Hilltopper as the ninth best quarterback in this year's draft. CBS Sports ranks Doughty as the 11th best quarterback prospect and projects him to be selected in the sixth round.

One major factor keeping Doughty from being highly coveted is that the level of competition he played against at WKU doesn't match that of quarterbacks from superior conferences.

However, this supposed weakness is very flawed as quarterbacks such as Tony Romo, Joe Flacco, Kurt Warner and Brett Favre all came from extremely small colleges and enjoyed success in the NFL.

Another weakness scouts think Doughty has is that his overall

SEE **REECER'S PIECE** PAGE B5

## TRACK AND FIELD

# Tops bring home four wins from Music City Challenge

BY **HUNTER FRINT**  
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The WKU track and field program continued this season's trend of wins after the Music City Challenge in Nashville concluded with four first-place finishes and 12 top-three finishes for the team.

The meet began on Friday, Feb. 12, and concluded on Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Vanderbilt Multipurpose Facility.

The men and women's track and field teams have become familiar with this setting and have seen an increasingly successful season thus far.

"The meet went well," Head Coach Erik Jenkins said. "A lot of solid performances across the board. We had some positive things going forward in the meet."

Continuing to rack up the wins for track, juniors Carrol Hardy and Emmanuel Dasor finished the weekend with top spot victories.

According to the results posted on WKUsports.com, Hardy was awarded with two top-three finishes.

The Florida native took home second in the women's 200-meter dash with a time of 24.17 and placed third in the 60-meter dash with a finishing time of 7.49.

"I think Carrol went out and ran a good race," Jenkins said.

WKUsports.com also reported Da-

zor's first-place win in the men's 200-meter dash. His time of 21.17 seconds was also good enough to set the facility record.

Sophomore Julius Morris ran close behind Dasor and finished with a time of 21.38, good for second place.

Other athletes who gave notable efforts toward the track team's success this weekend include sophomores Peli Alzola, Kyree King and Vincent Wyatt. All three team members placed in the top-three spots.

Alzola came in third for the women's 200-meter with 24.24.

"She had a very good weekend," Jenkins said. "I was very, very happy with her."

King grabbed first place for the men's 60-meter dash with 6.81, and Wyatt clocked his best time since being at WKU with second place in the 60-meter dash at 7.76.

The Toppers and Lady Toppers also pulled through in the 4x400 meter relay events. The women's team captured first place with a time of 3:45.54 while the men finished with a time of 3:09.22 for third place.

Two junior Lady Toppers, Sandra Akachukwu and Jenessa Jackson, highlighted the field events.

Akachukwu's winning high jump of 1.72 meters was a season best and .01 meters away from her career best from 2014.

Jackson came through with two



West Palm Beach, Fla., sophomore Jonathon Hayden practices hurdles before his race in the finals of the men's 60-meter hurdles at the Music City Challenge in Nashville on Saturday, Feb. 13. Hayden went on to finish fifth with a time of 8.09 seconds. **JUSTIN GILLILAND/HERALD**

third-place spots, one in weight throw at 18.38 meters as well as shot put at 14.83 meters.

Coach Jenkins praised Ventavius Sears' performance in the field events. Jenkins said Sears only took half of his allotted jumps and made a good mark.

Next Saturday, WKU will travel to South Bend, Indiana, to participate in the Alex Wilson Invitational. This will

be the last meet before the Conference USA Indoor Championships begin on Feb. 24 in Birmingham, Alabama.

"Right now we just want to stay healthy, stay humble and stay determined at what we're trying to accomplish, which is to go in [and] win conference championship," Jenkins said. "Notre Dame will provide a final tuneup for some individuals."